REMARKS

Claims 4-6, 8-16, and 18-35 are pending in the application. Claims 1-3, 7 and 17 stand canceled. Claims 4-6, 8-16 and 18-20 have been amended. Claims 21-35 are new. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added to the application by the Amendment.

The current application now includes two independent claims 21 and 22, both of which are apparatus claims based on canceled claim 17 incorporating respectively the subject matter of claims 5 and 4. The balance of dependent claims have been amended to depend from claims 21 and 22.

Applicants respectfully request that the Amendment After Final be entered in accordance with 37 CFR §116 and MPEP 714.13 since: (1) no new matter has been added to the application by the Amendment; (2) the Amendment resolves all issues raised by the Examiner in the Final Office Action; (3) the subject matter of the Amendment already has been included in the Examiner's search and therefore does not require the Examiner to perform further searching; (4) the Amendment places the application in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal and (5) the Amendment does not result in a net addition of claims to the application. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added to the application by the Amendment.

Claim Objection

The Examiner has objected to claim 18 for misspelling "JPEG". Applicant has corrected the spelling. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objection to claim 18.

The Present Invention

The second embodiment of the present invention, described starting at page 30 of the application is directed to a printing apparatus which receives and stores data from a host which may be print data (i.e. data to be printed), inquiry data or print instruction data. The printing apparatus forms a list of the stored print data. If the printing apparatus receives inquiry data from the host, the list of print data is transmitted to the host. A converting unit generates image data from the print data which can be displayed by the host. The print instruction data may

instruct the printing device to print a particular print job or, if print instruction data includes a transfer instruction, the print data is transferred to another printer for printing.

Prior Art Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-6, and 8-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over U.S. Publication No. 2002/0036793 (Roosen). in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0046238 (Estavillo).

Claim 17 has been amended with the subject matter of claim 5 and rewritten as new claim 21, as follows:

21.   (New) *A printing apparatus comprising:*

a receiving unit which receives data from a host;

a transmitting unit which transmits data to the host;

a print unit which prints print data onto a medium;

an analyzing unit which analyzes the data received from said host;

a storing unit which stores said print data if a result of said analysis indicates that the data is print data;

a list forming unit which forms a list of the print data stored in said storing unit and outputs said list of the print data to said transmitting unit if the result of said analysis indicates inquiry data;

a print instructing unit which, if the result of said analysis indicates print instruction data, outputs said print data stored in said storing unit to said print unit on a basis of said print instruction data; and

a converting unit which converts a portion of said print data it into an image data format in which the print data can be displayed by said host, the image data being stored into the storing unit in an interlocking relation with said print data and the transmitting unit transmitting the image data if said inquiry data is received,

said printing apparatus detecting that information of another external apparatus is included in said print instruction data and transferring the print data

instructed by said print instruction data to said another external apparatus if the information of said another external apparatus is included in the print instruction data.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected both claims 17 and claim 5 over Roosen in view of Estavillo In respect to the subject matter of claim 5, the Examiner's position appears to be that Roosen discloses a printing apparatus that detects that information of another external apparatus is included in print instruction data and that transfers the print data from the printing apparatus to the external device if the information of the external apparatus is included in the instruction data.

Applicants submit that Roosen does not disclose a printing apparatus with the features recited in claim 17 as claim 17 is amended with the subject matter of claim 5.

Roosen is directed to a printing system in which interactive print jobs are stored in printer memory and are not printed unless activated by a user (Abstract).

In a first embodiment of Roosen, the printing system comprises one or more desktop computers 100 connected to one or more printers 200 via a network (Fig. 2A). Each desktop computer includes a virtual printer (VP) sub-program which communicates with the printers and updates the workstation with respect to the status of the printers. Each workstation also includes a user interface (UI) (See paragraphs 0021-0022). Each printer has a digital access controller (DAC) formed from "an information server (IS) which is intended to receive from and send to workstations digital information such as status information concerning the printer itself and the print jobs that the printer is processing" (See paragraph 0023).

Files of print digital data which are transmitted to a printer from a workstation are of a first (direct) type that are required to be printed directly and of a second (interactive) type that are stored on the printer and not printed until a workstation operator explicitly sends a command to print the file. An attribute of the file shows the type of file. (See paragraph 0024).

In a second embodiment (see Fig. 2B), a web server 310 capable of preparing web pages is included in the printing system and each workstation includes a web browser. As described at paragraphs 0100 to 0105, the web pages include the same types of printer and job status data as disclosed for the UI in the first embodiment. For example, paragraph 0110 states that the button

57 on the web page shown in Fig. 15 for requesting printing corresponds to the button 25 in Fig. 8 for printing a file.

A thorough reading of Roosen fails to disclose any feature in which print data stored in a printer is transferred to another apparatus based on instruction data included with the print data, as recited in new claim 21. Further, the only print instruction data Roosen discloses as being transmitted to the printer is that which determines whether or not the print data is directly printed or stored until a second "interactive" print instruction is received by the printer. Such instruction data is not information of another external apparatus, as recited in new claim 21. The introduction of the web server into the invention merely provides an alternative way of displaying printer and job status and does not alter the fact that Roosen does not disclose, teach or suggest: (1) print instruction data which includes information of another external apparatus or (2) transferring any print data (i.e. data to be printed) from a printing apparatus to an external apparatus.

As described at paragraphs 0053-0054, Estavillo is directed to a printer 100, 200 and a client computer 208 which includes a print driver 216 and a web browser 217. The printer includes a printing mechanism 201, a plurality of ports 202 for communicating with the client computer 208 for receiving print data and print instructions, a web server application 206 capable of generating a web page containing a preview of a print job viewable by the web browser 217 and a preview generator 207 and print manager module for generating a preview image of a print job.

As described in paragraphs 0058 – 0068 and Fig. 6, a user upon sending a print job including image data to the printer may request a preview of the print job by way of a key command 600. The preview generator in the printer generates a JPEG preview 607 which is registered with the web server in the printer 609 and may then be accessed by the web browser in the client computer 611.

Estavillo does not disclose, teach or suggest: (1) print instruction data which includes information of another external apparatus or (2) transferring any print data (i.e. data to be printed) from a printing apparatus to an external apparatus.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Roosen nor Estavillo teach, suggest or disclose a printing apparatus which receives from a host: (1) print instruction data which

includes information of another external apparatus or (2) transfers any print data (i.e. data to be printed) from the printing apparatus to an external apparatus based on the instruction data. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103 rejections of claims 17 and 5 as they may be applied to new claim 21.

Claims 4, 8-16, 18-20 and 26 are allowable based on their dependency from allowable claim 21.

Claim 17 has been amended with the subject matter of claim 4 and rewritten as new claim 22, as follows:

22.   *A printing apparatus comprising:*

a receiving unit which receives data from a host;

a transmitting unit which transmits data to the host;

a print unit which prints print data onto a medium;

an analyzing unit which analyzes the data received from said host;

a storing unit which stores said print data if a result of said analysis indicates that the data is print data;

a list forming unit which forms a list of the print data stored in said storing unit and outputs said list of the print data to said transmitting unit if the result of said analysis indicates inquiry data;

a print instructing unit which, if the result of said analysis indicates print instruction data, outputs said print data stored in said storing unit to said print unit on ~~the~~ a basis of said print instruction data; and

a converting unit which converts a portion of said print data ~~it~~ into an image data format in which the print data can be displayed by said host, the image data being stored into the storing unit in an interlocking relation with said print data and the transmitting unit transmitting the image data if said inquiry data is received, wherein the print data of only a first page is converted, the first page being the first sheet in plural sheets.

In the Office action, the Examiner states that Roosen fails to teach a method for converting print data into image data of only a first page is converted but Estavillo discloses converting print data into preview information and states that Estavillo converts only the first page since a print job may be only one page.

Applicant has amended claim 22 to recite that only a first page is converted, <u>the first page being the first sheet in plural sheets.</u>

Estavillo clearly discloses at paragraph 0064 that "<u>the PDL interpreter embedded in the printer renders the image of the print job</u> and the image preview generator generates a low resolution image in encoded JPEG format". In contrast, claim 22 recites that only the first page of a plural sheet print job is converted.

Applicant submits that neither Roosen nor Estavillo teach, suggest or disclose a printing apparatus having converting unit which converts a portion of said print data it into an image data format in which the print data can be displayed by said host, the image data being stored into the storing unit in an interlocking relation with said print data and the transmitting unit transmitting the image data if said inquiry data is received, <u>wherein the print data of only a first page is converted, the first page being the first sheet in plural sheets.</u>

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103 rejections of claims 17 and 4 as they may be applied to new claim 22.

Claims 5-623-25 and 27-35 are allowable based on their dependency from allowable claim 22.

Conclusion

Insofar as the Examiner's rejections were fully addressed, the instant application including all pending claims is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowability of all pending claims is therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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(Date)

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